



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 652**

January Session, 2013



**AN ACT CONCERNING REFERRALS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE BIRTH-TO-THREE PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) The Department of  
2 Children and Families shall, within available appropriations, establish  
3 a program to address the developmental needs of children thirty-six  
4 months of age or younger who are substantiated as victims of abuse or  
5 neglect or have been the subject of an assessment pursuant to the  
6 differential response program, established under section 17a-101g of  
7 the general statutes.

8 (b) As part of such program, the department shall screen such  
9 children for developmental and social-emotional delays utilizing  
10 evidence-based assessments, including, but not limited to, physical  
11 examinations, social and emotional evaluations and questionnaires.  
12 The department shall conduct such screening twice annually. The  
13 department shall refer any child exhibiting developmental or social-  
14 emotional delays pursuant to such screening to the birth-to-three  
15 program, established under section 17a-248b of the general statutes.  
16 The department shall refer any child who is not found eligible for  
17 services under the birth-to-three program to the Help Me Grow  
18 prevention program of the Children's Trust Fund, or a similar program  
19 which the department deems appropriate.

20 (c) Not later than July 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the  
 21 department, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
 22 general statutes, shall submit a report to the joint standing committee  
 23 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
 24 children for inclusion in the annual report card prepared pursuant to  
 25 section 2-53m of the general statutes on the status of the program  
 26 authorized pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. Such report shall  
 27 include: (1) The number of children thirty-six months of age or  
 28 younger within the state who are victims of substantiated abuse or  
 29 neglect; (2) the number of children thirty-six months of age or younger  
 30 within the state who are being served through the differential response  
 31 program established under section 17a-101g of the general statutes; (3)  
 32 the percentage of children who received evidence-based assessments  
 33 for developmental and social-emotional delays by the department or  
 34 by a provider contracted by the department within the preceding  
 35 twelve months; and (4) the percentage of children receiving evidence-  
 36 based developmental support services through the birth-to-three  
 37 program established under section 17a-248b of the general statutes or  
 38 through a provider contracted by the department.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2013	New section
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**KID**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*